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LINES WORTH REMEMBERING.

No gain is so certain as that which is saved from the economical use of what we have.—SENECA.

OIL, A NATURAL RESOURCE.

OIL producers probably have less knowledge of themselves than any other class of people. But the Tulsa World is fearful that the legislature will increase the gross production tax on oil, which now is at the petty rate of 3 percent. There is a mild clamor to have this reduced to 2 percent, but the legislature is more likely to add another 1 or 2 percent than to slice the rate.

Oil is a natural resource. It flows in lakes under your property and some other man's property, and often is pumped to the surface from the property of a third person. By establishing a tax on this oil, every property owner of the state derives a benefit from the natural resources in which he has a proprietary interest.

The oil men are said to be willing to bear their share of taxation, but there seems to be something of a disagreement as to the amount of that share. Under the present law the owner of an oil well which pours forth 1,000 barrels of oil each day comes to his breakfast table each morning with a smile on his face to receive at that breakfast table, figuratively speaking, the juicy sum of \$1,700, of which amount he must pay a tax of \$51. The oil producer wishes to have this tax reduced so that he will contribute only \$34 toward financing our public affairs.

If there is any class well able to pay a reasonable share of taxation, that class is the army of oil producers. We don't hear much of failure among them; true, once in a while some daring producer drills a deep hole in the ground and becomes sole proprietor of a "duster," but no woe howls at the door of the Oklahoma oil producer, and he is in a fine financial condition to meet the tax collector more than half way. We cannot say so much for the struggling farmer, who is laboring diligently to become owner of a piece of land where he can raise crops that will make his family comfortable.

The gross production tax should be revised upward, if the legislature feels inclined to tackle the subject. But under no circumstances should the burden of taxation be shifted from a natural resource, OIL, and added to the already burdened farmer or wage earner.

The annual report of Armour & Co., just made public, shows that that corporation struggled through the year, paid all expenses, and had \$20,000,000 left as profits. And we can't look for cheaper meats until the farmer stops demanding fancy prices for his cattle.

CARS AND STILL MORE CARS.

WHEN the number of automobiles manufactured in 1914 reached \$15,000, the automobile manufacturers rubbed their hands and said that business was good. But the following year the output of motor cars aggregated 700,000; then, in 1916 the industry seemed to have gained a bit in popularity, for 1,500,000 cars found their way into the hands of motorists.

Statistics recently issued by those who follow the motor business indicate that 2,500,000 cars will be placed in commission in 1917, and there are a few enthusiasts who predict that the output of this year will reach 3,000,000 cars. It is believed that at least one-third of this year's production will be of a popular brand which invites the shafts of the jokesters and the manufacturer of which piles up millions faster than the jesters can invent new jokes.

For an industry that is yet almost in its infancy, the automobile business has made a new world's record. It has been the cause of the construction of millions of dollars worth of good roads; it has revolutionized traffic and has provided a means of rapid transit which saves millions of dollars worth of time to business men.

Viewed as a luxury a few years ago, the motor car now is generally considered as a necessity, a business adjunct, even when used along pleasure lines. There was a day when cautious persons thought the nation was mad, that too much money was being invested in motors, but such ideas seem to have vanished, and there will be little excitement at the announcement of an annual output of 3,000,000 cars.

There seems little danger of overdoing the business. Cars will wear out. They are made for use and not merely for show, so cannot be expected to last more than a couple of years or three or four or five, according to the service asked of the cars. With the demand for new cars to replace ones that wear out, and with an increasing automobile population, the future has a bright outlook for the men who own motor car factories.

The Kaiser is not disposed to consider the demands of England as the basis of peace. Neither did Napoleon.

THE 123-DOLLAR STEER.

ALMOST a dime a pound was paid at the stockyards Thursday for steers that grew to maturity in Comanche county. The average weight of the high-class fellows was 1,232 pounds; the price was \$9.90 a hundred, and each animal brought the owner the handsome sum of \$123.25.

In the formative period of Oklahoma no such price as this was in evidence. The range animals sold for a few dollars each; but livestock breeders discovered that it cost very little more to fatten a high steer than a scrub, and they engaged in the raising of animals which bring double profits, or more.

Oklahoma is on the way to become pre-eminent in the cattle business. We have the climate and the grass; what the Comanche county farmer accomplished can be achieved by other farmers. And they are stampeding to get into the fancy livestock industry.

NEXT THURSDAY'S BIG MEETING.

ECHOES of those famous days in local history when great accomplishments rounded out our general scheme of development are expected to be repeated next Thursday noon, when the entire membership of the Chamber of Commerce is summoned to assemble to complete the work of causing the Ozark Trail to be finished across Oklahoma county and open a highway which will give the St. Louis motorist the opportunity of leaving his home any Monday morning and dining in Oklahoma City the next night.

At this important meeting, the Chamber of Commerce plans to take such action that will give added impetus to the activity in our home county which will assure the Oklahoma County link of the Ozark Trail being completed in the early summer, when the remaining portions of the highway in this state are ready to be officially opened by inviting the motorists of the east to come this way.

There should be such an attendance at the meeting next Thursday that an overflow meeting will be necessary. If there be general response to the invitation of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce, then Oklahoma City will be ready to get on the map as principal city on the Ozark Trail on that highway which starts at St. Louis and stretches southwest across Missouri, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and on to the land of the setting sun.

The meeting promises to be momentous. It will be enthusiastic; it will recall those days when we acquired packing houses, new railroads, and the other material achievements which combine to make a metropolis. Oklahoma City is ready to do her part to make possible the pleasure of motorists who are ready to heed the beckoning which we expect to extend to the transcontinental tourists.

If the women of Oklahoma wish to see an equal suffrage resolution prevail in the Oklahoma legislature, they will aid the cause by suppressing the silent sentinels at Washington. The action of the women at the national capital has a considerable adverse influence at the Oklahoma capital.

THE HUNGRY BOY.

NOW comes a physician in Indiana who makes the startling announcement that a growing boy is the best judge of what he should eat. If this statement does not develop a right hot discussion on the part of the mothers of hungry, growing boys, we miss our guess.

Everyone knows that a mule can be turned loose in front of things to eat and the mule will stop before he overdoes the thing. Not so the horse, the cow and some other domestic animals, for they will abuse the eating privilege.

When the Indiana medical man puts the growing boy in the class with the mule, he gives the boy credit for having the judgment in not over-eating.

How many boys do not overeat? That is, how many growing boys leave the dinner table with appetites yet unsatisfied? It is a fine question, and the Hoosier doctor maintains that the boy is the best judge of what to eat and how much. What do the mothers say?

Our state mine inspector insists that oil and gas come under his jurisdiction. This Mr. Boyle is a brave man to want to go down into gas mines and oil mines.

POLICEMEN AND THEIR SALARIES.

LOCAL policemen are planning to ask for advances in salaries. Their request should be granted. But we notice that one officer who submits an itemized statement of his cost of living includes \$1 a month to pay the barber. Of course, if the patrolman finds it necessary to get his hair cut once or twice a week, there can be no adverse comment; but if he spends the money for shaving, why doesn't he grip the high cost of living like the banker does and shave himself with the safety razor that now is so popular?

Oklahoma's fire loss is getting bigger. Will some legislator kindly introduce a bill to stop the use of matches, which are responsible for so many blazes?

Every bank robber should be arrested at least one day before a bank robbery. This would reduce the premiums on burglar insurance.

WHAT EDITORS SAY

Thrift to Rule.

Our grandfathers discovered a country of "inexhaustible" wealth. The prairies upon which their cattle could gaze were "limitless." The stretches of land upon which grain might be raised were "endless." The forests, the coal lands, the great reservoirs of oil and gas were without bounds. So we grew wealthy—and wasteful. The plea for conservation has been heard for several years. Perhaps it is not too late to be effective.

This "inexhaustible" wealth of natural resources has had its influence upon our national character. Our governments have been wasteful. Our workmen have paid little attention to preventable sickness, or to the economies practiced in foreign countries. We haven't been shiftless, but we have been thrifless.

The Italian who has come to this country and become wealthy, the Jew who left Russia in poverty and acquired a banking business, the Japanese, who became rich on a little garden patch in California, serve as lessons of what we might have done if we had the saving instinct.

There will be more thrift in Europe when the war is over. Every interest will be subservient to thrift. Governments will take a hand in it, teaching the public ways and means of living without waste. In a greater field they will conserve their natural wealth, watching over water power and coal lands and agricultural projects lest there be waste. Intensive methods of manufacture and of selling manufactured products will be put into operation. Scientists will be called in to advise government and people how to make every resource and every penny count.

If Americans, while this is going on, do not reverse the present method of living for the day only, of spending lavishly merely because they have the wherewithal, the wealth which has been piled up in this country will slowly but surely gravitate to the other continent. This is not a plea for hoarding. It is a plea for investment and conservation of all resources—human and natural.—Syracuse Post-Standard.

The old-fashioned man who took his pen in hand now has a son who takes his typewriter in his arms.—Pensacola (Fla.) News.

Meat-eating causes backache, so they say. Also, it causes acute pocketbook crimp.—Indiana Times (Indianapolis).

Doing little things well enables one to do big things better.—Scranton (Pa.) Times.

To spend time arguing with a fool is to put yourself in his class.—Chicago American.

Washington announces that the Mexican outlook is not encouraging. "There were some clever people who had already suspected as much."—Charleston (N. C.) News and Courier.

LUKE M'LUKE --His Column

Copyright 1917

Open.
He talks too much, does Billy Baz.
And shows his ignorance;
That's why we will admit he has
An open countenance.

Great.
"A man has to have great grandchild-
dren before he can be a great grand-
father, hasn't he?" asked the Boob.

"He has," replied the Student.

"But you'll have to admit that President
Wilson is a great grandfather,
even if he hasn't any great grandchild-
dren," insisted the Boob.

Merely!
We know that the prevailing high
prices make the butchers over anxious
to get rid of their stocks. Yet, some-
how or other, female shoppers are not
a bit afraid to pass the meat market
of Halter & Grabber in Canton, Ohio.

Time!
The noble watch has passed away,
It couldn't stand the knocking;
But it is plain to see that they
Still wear clocks on their stockings.

Ouch!
The man who marries a certain
Zanesville (Ohio) girl may never have
a fuss with her. But we are afraid
that on a few occasions he will have
to call her by her maiden name. It
is Esther B. Still.

Maw Knows a Few Things.
Willie—Paw, what is an economist?
Maw—An economist is a man who is
buying something for his wife, my son.
Paw—You get to bed, young man.

Help!
This novelist has made a hit,
Though he's no puritan;
He isn't pious, I'll admit,
But he's a wondrous man.

Whoa!
John Curry and Mary Comb have
just been married in Cass county, Mis-
souri.

Oh!
It is hard to spend a quiet evening
in some big cities. But when you are
in Cincinnati you can always go to
Helen Reed.

Bony Part.
"Smith imagines that he looks like
Napoleon," said Brown. "Can you see
any resemblance?"
"Sure," replied Jones. "His head re-
sembles a Bonaparte."

Dye.
A woman likes to look her best.
She dreads the marks that come from
care;
And you will find—this is no jest—
She'll die before she'll have gray hairs.

The Answer.
Will I. Phiguer, of the Mark Mfg.
Co., Zanesville, Ohio, has found the an-
swer to the "Figure It Out" cafe din-
ner problem. The proprietor will have
to buy his seven customers that dinner
in just 4.20 days.

Things to Worry About.
A tea plant won't live more than fif-
teen years.

Names Is Names.
Miss Monroe Outhouse lives at
Evansville, Ind.

Our Daily Special.
The Late Husband Gets The Devil.

Luke McLuke Says
It may seem paradoxical. But a pol-
ished man should never cast reflec-
tions.

The woman whose husband looks like
something that she got with trading
stamps imagines that the Chorus Girl's
union and the Dizzy Blondes' union
were organized for the purpose of kid-
napping her lesser half.

Isn't it funny how Honest and Up-
right a man feels when the other fel-
low gets caught and he doesn't?

That western pastor who announces
that the automobile is a menace to re-

SIDELIGHTS ON WAR MOVES

CAREFUL reading of the reply of the entente to President Wilson's sug-
gestion opening the way to a peace pourparlers leaves one with the con-
viction that for the first time in this diplomatic dicker for a peace
wedge, the allies have Germany up a tree.

The Manchester Guardian expressed it aptly: "Germany asked for a con-
ference without stating terms, while the entente states terms without asking for
a conference."

Lloyd George stated Thursday: "We have rejected no peace terms, but a
trap baited with fine words." The entente met President Wilson's request at its
face value and outlined the general principles on which it will sheath its sword.

The central powers evaded the issue.

It is now up to Germany to give her adversaries, secretly or openly, the
basis on which she will enter peace negotiations. There can be no gainsaying
the fact that the initial move by the Central powers put Great Britain and her
allies on the defensive. The entente assumed the note to be a war maneuver
and treated it with contempt, but much to the surprise of the German diplomats
in this country, came through with a bill of particulars at the request of Presi-
dent Wilson, which can only be disappointing to any one who is hoping for a
speedy issue out of all our afflictions, because of the lengths to which it goes.

The next public move of the belligerents will not be made in the open, but
if two months passes without another forward move in the negotiations being
accomplished, we may assume that Germany's first peace offer was what the
allies called it, and not in the least a serious effort to bring Europe out of the
trenches. Germany has the opportunity to encourage negotiations by stating how
many of the entente demands she will concede.

The attitude of Bernstorff and his brethren, snorting indignation at the very
thought of Germany's accepting such conditions, is much the same trait of hu-
man nature as that expressed by the hair trigger British press following the
publication of President Wilson's note. The first day's comments from London
were to the effect that President Wilson would be snubbed for his meddling.
Reason always speaks after passion. We are likely to find that Germany is
willing to concede a great portion of the terms.

The publication of a statement to neutrals by Germany, answering the en-
tente's rejection of the peace move to the Kaiser, may be described as strategy
on the part of Berlin to give the neutral world something to consider alongside
of the wonderfully clear, concise, appealing statement to the world through
President Wilson, written by the entente government. There is nothing in the
German plea that has not been stated many times before. It is the old debate
over the cause for the war and Great Britain's "shameful history" in the treat-
ment of small nations.

New let us see what there is in the allied answer that would rob Germany
of anything that is rightfully hers. And in considering what is said hereafter,
recall that the Kaiser and his men, in their official utterances, often have stated
they are fighting only for their national existence, never for conquest.

The restoration of Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro would not touch the
central powers.

Evacuation of the invaded portions of France, Russia and Rumania would
not touch Germany, although we know that Germany will content long for a
butler state against Russia and that Bulgaria will be a disgruntled warrior if she
has to leave the Dobrudja.

In the liberation of Italians, Slavs, Rumanians and Czechs from foreign
domination, Austria-Hungary would be the goat in each instance except in the
province of Posen. In Posen a strip of Poles have moved up to the Baltic sea,
making an island of the German East Prussia. The isolation of East Prussia
would never be consented to by Germany. On this point the allies say the in-
tention of the czar of Russia to join Silesia, Posen and Russian-Poland in an
autonomous nation, will be carried through.

The driving of the Turk out of Europe would shatter forever Germany's
dream of "Mittel Europa," but it will not alter Germany's national boundaries.
Neither would Germany be chopped to pieces by the return of Alsace-Lorraine
to France. In every instance where territorial changes are required, with the
exception of Posen and the Rhine provinces, some of Germany's allies would be
the loser.

It is natural to assume that this card of terms is a barter bill and conse-
quently presents the entente's highest hopes.

"Our objects in the war will not be made known in detail until the hour of
negotiations," the reply says. That statement provides an "out" for the Posen
knoll.

The allies are committed to war to the hilt in 1917. The German states-
men must now decide whether they are in a position to concede more today than
they will be in January, 1918.

President Wilson is chided neatly in one section for assuming that the ends
of both factions of the belligerents are approximately the same. The note, in a
most suave manner, tries to convince the president that his remark might have
been misunderstood among the entente nations.

One of the cleverest portions is the final section, the calm, human appeal of
King Albert of Belgium, in which the case of Belgium is presented with cold,
convincing fact, coupled with such demonstrations of affection for America that
one has a renewed feeling of confidence in the justness of the cause of Great
Britain, France, Belgium and their comrades.—W. M. H.

ligion must have purchased either a
new tin Henry or a secondhand One-
ninewefter.

A woman can take an old canary
bird cage and some ribbon and make a
pretty nifty hat out of them. But a
man couldn't do it.

About this time of year the last crop
of June Brides are coming down to
breakfast in the morning wearing
greasy kimonos and with their hair
wadded into door knobs on the backs
of their heads.

It is hard to tell by early appear-
ances. We doubt if there was ever a
president of this country who took a
prize at a baby show.

Another reason why we send our
sons to college is because when they

OLD STORIES IN NEW TYPE

From The TIMES FILES

Twenty Years Ago.

L. G. Pitman went to Guthrie today.

Jack Holloway, the jolly G. U. M., of
the Choctaw, departed this morning for
Arkansas to visit friends.

At the legislative hall the other night
in Guthrie the beauty of Oklahoma City
ladies and their elaborate toilets was
remarked by all. The following are
the toilets of those in attendance:

Mrs. Jasper Sipes, elegant plum col-
ored silk, elaborately decorated with
black lace.

Mrs. T. F. McMechan, beautifully
robed in black duchess silk richly
trimmed with silk applique and cut
steel ornaments.

Mrs. J. S. Hasgall, a most beautiful
and becoming gown of black moire
silk, jeweled waist, diamond and pearl
ornaments.

Mrs. J. R. Keaton, black brocaded
silk with gold tissue and diamonds.

Mrs. E. L. Dunn, Nile green crystal
silk with tinsel brocade, carnations.

Miss Mae DeFord, cream china silk,
violet and smilax.

Miss Johnson, fawn skirt with beau-
tiful pink satin waist, maroon velvet
and jewel trimmings on waist, with pink
chiffon and black jet.

Miss Mayme Milner, pink mousseline
dress.

Miss Myrta Cooke, white brocaded
silk.

Fifteen Years Ago.

Will York has purchased a residence
at Eighth and Broadway.

R. B. Mosier, who has been on the
sick list for several days, is able to be
among his friends on the street today.

Mr. O. O. Ballard of Houston, Texas,
as a member of the Daily Herald there,
is in the city, the guest of Miss Louise
Hannum.

Ten Years Ago.

Mr. and Mrs. George Frederickson
will entertain this evening with a dan-
cing party for their guest, Miss Bussey
of Urbana, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Mannie D. Herskowitz
returned today from their wedding trip
to New Orleans.

Mr. and Mrs. T. F. McMechan went
to Guthrie today for the week-end.

RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason

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WINTER.

WE always tire of winter before it's
had its fling, and yearningly
begin to extol the charms of
spring. We roast the wintry rigors in
wild, impassioned terms, and long for
spring and chiggers, and flies and bugs
and germs. And yet the winter weather
is good for mortal man, and we should
get together, and boost it while we can.
The arctic blast's a hummer, but while
it roars and rolls, the pests of spring
and summer are dead or in their holes.
Hail, storm that swats us critters, with
many a lousy bill! You give the germs
their bitters, and freeze the microbes
stiff. Hail, blizzard that is snorting
across the icy plain! You send old
blood cavorting through every palsied
vein. With zest I do my labors, when
knee deep in the snows; I go and whip
my neighbors, and pull a peeler's nose.
The springtime finds me slonchy, too
indolent to smile, and I am gruff and
grouchy, and full of prunes and bile.
But the frosted breezes athwart my
side boards blow, I shake off all dis-
eases, and every grouch and woe. I
feel as gay and chipper as when I was
16, and from the old tin dipper I quaff
my gasoline.

Days of Real Sport

By Briggs

